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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Steffen Hardt

Examiner: Jennifer M. Dieterle

Serial No: 10/578,602

Art Unit: 1795

Filed: 05/08/2006

Date: March 22, 2010

For: **METHOD FOR SEPARATION OF CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES AND/OR PARTICLES, DEVICE AND ITS USE**

Mail Stop AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Sir,

In response to the Official Action mailed February 18, 2010, Applicant responds as follows:

The Examiner indicates that in accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, the Applicant is required to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted from the following groups of inventions:

Group I, Claims 1-3, 5, 6, 11 and 13-15;

Group II, Claims 4 and 12; and

Group III, Claims 7-10 and 16-18.

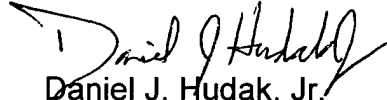
Accordingly, Applicant hereby elects Group II, drawn to a method for the separation of chemical substances or particles or a combination thereof, comprising a microfluidic system with phases perpendicular to the phase boundaries.

A Preliminary Amendment is submitted herewith cancelling various non-elected claims and amending claims 6 and 13 to be dependent upon the elected claims. Accordingly it is respectfully submitted that claims 4, 6, and 12-13 are readable upon the elected invention.

Should the Examiner have any questions or concerns regarding this response, a telephone call to the undersigned is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

HUDAK, SHUNK & FARINE CO. LPA

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel J. Hudak, Jr.", written over the printed name.

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